

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 94 16:41:46 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #868
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Tue, 2 Aug 94 Volume 94 : Issue 868

Today's Topics:

144/440 duo-bander
15mW QSO's
Cushcraft A50-5S info??
Ham Software Pirates?
HEATHKIT radio clock and Linux?
Info-Hams Digest V94 #858
INFO WANTED: Alinco DJ-580T
INFO WANTED: Yaesu FT-530
Need advice on towers
S. California Repeaters (2 msgs)
Simulcasting repeaters on same freq
SWL QSLs and the bureaus
Technician No Code
Weather fax/satelite pics
y

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Mon, 1 Aug 1994 17:25:59 GMT
From: hplntx!hpcc01!brunob@hplabs.hpl.hp.com
Subject: 144/440 duo-bander
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Need a design for 144/440 duo-bander base antenna.
collinear or arreyes with gain will be better.

from the log of AA6AD

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 05:21:23 GMT
From: news.Hawaii.Edu!kahuna!jeffrey@ames.arpa
Subject: 15mW QSO's
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994Jul31.214356.19342@arrl.org> ehare@arrl.org (Ed Hare (KA1CV)) writes:

>
>Actually, 15 mW would do a good job from here to several local repeaters.
>
>Now on HF...
>
>Well, on HF, I am up to 30 states worked with 10 mW, so I wouldn't discount
>the low-power claim at all. :-)

Earlier this year I posted an article on here about a 20mW CW QSO between the Mainland US and Hungary in Europe; believe it was on 15M.

My output on HF is never more than 1W.

Jeff NH6IL
jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu

Date: 2 Aug 1994 13:41:25 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!udel!news.udel.edu!diusys!dave@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Cushcraft A50-5S info??
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'd like to find the proper element lengths for a Cushcraft A50-5S 5 element 6 meter yagi. Anyone have a manual handy?

Thanks, Dave WA3U
dave@diusys.cms.udel.edu

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 15:07:20 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!cs.utexas.edu!swrinde!gatech!ncar!csn!lwjames@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Ham Software Pirates?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In August '94 QST, Brian Beezley, K6STI, is quoted as saying "Many software developers have no defense against the widespread software piracy that occurs in the Amateur Radio market."

Without implicating any specific person, is this valid? Are hams really any worse than the rest of the population?

Larry James, KG0GB

Date: Sun, 31 Jul 94 22:18:03 GMT
From: hookup!yeshua.marcam.com!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!olivea!isc-br!tau-ceti!
jupiter!opus-ovh!bmork@ames.arpa
Subject: HEATHKIT radio clock and Linux?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

longyear@netcom.com (Al Longyear) writes:

> (The completed clock, around the time that the kit was being
> offered for \$130, was \$400. The kit was a nice week project and it works
> quite well still.)

For \$400, one could buy an OEM GPS module that outputs the time.

Brian Mork UUCP bmork@opus-ovh.spk.wa.us / ARO ka9snf@ka7fvv.#ewa.wa.usa
.... USMail 6006-B Eaker, Fairchild, WA 99011
.. .. .V:509-244-3764 D:509-244-9260

Date: 2 Aug 94 22:13:14 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #858
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Subject: Lightbulb's as antennas?
>yes, lightbulbs radiate RF fairly well. I made serveral contacts as
>a Novice on a 100 Watt Light Bulb.....When you live in an apartment, you
>will load up anything.. including the Bed Springs...hi hi

>Herb
>WA5YK0

But Herb, this is the no-code, water-bed generation....what's a bed spring?!?

Bob, WB5FBS
bobpriez@selu.edu

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 14:07:05 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!spool.mu.edu!uwm.edu!mixcom.com!
kevin.jessup@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: INFO WANTED: Alinco DJ-580T
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In <Ctv6IE.4sC@serval.net.wsu.edu> i9261739@wsuaix.csc.wsu.edu (Mike Wallendahl) writes:

>Help!

>I am new to the world of ham radio, and want to get started. I am
>thinking of purchasing a handheld unit, and have just about fallen in
>love with the Alinco DJ-580T. It is a dual band 2M/440MHz unit.

After living with the 580T for a year and a half, I must say that I really love the ergonomics (mechanical and software) of the unit.

>Before I go out and fork out \$380 for this thing I want to know a few things:
>Is Alinco any good? Is there anything the Alinco does not have that I
>might miss if I start using Ham radio frequently? The Alinco comes with
>40 memory channels total for both bands. Is that enough? Should I go up
>\$80 more and buy a Kenwood radio instead with more memory channels?

The scanner crowd will say that 40 isn't enough. If your ownly interested in 2 meter and 70cm repeaters, 3 or 4 police and fire dispatch frequencies and a NOAA weather channel or two, 40 channels should be more than enough. It is not a scanner. Scan speed is incredibly slow (as it is on most amateur HTs). Maybe 3 or 4 channels a second.

If you need more, get the Yaesu FT530. Better yet, get a Standard. Standards have memory chips that can be installed and, IMO, Standard is far more rugged and has better RF performance than anyone else short of Motorola and the other professional rigs.

I'd avoid any used Alinco DJ580Ts. I think Alinco has a quality control problem. There have been widely varying reports on them as far as intermod problems and electrical and mechanical assembly quality. Mine has been rock-solid.

I have also heard from those who say the Yaesu FT530 dual-band HT is the best thing since sliced bread. Its DOES have a few more software gizmos, but RF-wise, I don't think it offers much more.

Note that ALL HT's will have intermod problems when you connect them to the 5/8 wave whip on your car and go cruising through the RF jungles of big-city business and industrial zones.

If you are going to do a lot of mobile work, have you considered skipping the HT route and going with a 2-meter mobile. The dual-band mobiles are a bit expensive for an entry-level ham. You might still find a new Yaesu FT2400H 50-watt 2-meter mobile around. AES in Milwaukee is sold out. The replacement for the FT2400H is the FT2500. I have both. They are excellent 2-meter rigs with a mil-spec mechanical rating. The FT2500 is going for around \$350.00.

For a little more than the cost of the 580, you can get the FT2500 and a dual-band mag-mount or trunk-lip mount mobile antenna. Commet, Diamond and ANLI (and a few others) make nice mobile antennas and mounting hardware.

--

```
kevin.jessup@mixcom.com | Vote Libertarian!
                        |
                        | Call 1-800-682-1776
                        | for more information.
```

Date: 2 Aug 1994 14:44:32 GMT
From: agate!darkstar.UCSC.EDU!news.hal.COM!olivea!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!cs.utexas.edu!swrinde!gatech!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!newsrelay.iastate.edu!news.@@ihnp4.ucsd.edu
Subject: INFO WANTED: Yaesu FT-530
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CtvJr3.Mr@serval.net.wsu.edu>, i9261739@wsuaix.csc.wsu.edu (Mike Wallendahl) writes:

>I got lots of replies to my last query about the Alinco, and now I'm
>leaning towards maybe a Yaesu. Anyone have any horrible experiences with
>this radio?

I recently bought a FT-530, and I really like it. I heard lots of good things about the radio, and very few--if any--negatives.

As for the price, I bought mine from AES, and the price was less than \$400.

Date: 2 Aug 1994 14:09:49 GMT
From: meaddata!mds@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Need advice on towers
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994Jul29.150648.6675@cs.brown.edu>, rn@cs.brown.edu (Robert H.B. Netzer) writes:

|> I would like to get the net's advice/wisdom/experience/opinions on fixed
|> towers (not crankups) on the order of 50' to 100'. Who is regarded as making
|> the highest quality towers? What can I expect to spend? Where can I obtain
|> info on installation (guy wires, concrete for the base, etc)? Is there a
|> knowledgeable person in the vicinity of Providence, RI who would be willing
|> to chat in person and provide some help?
|>
|> Rob Netzer, KD1TS
|> rn@cs.brown.edu

I have a 90' Rohn model 25 guyed tower. This supports a Mosley Classic 33 3-element HF yagi and a FO-22 22-element UHF yagi.

I have always considered Rohn to be a quality tower manufacture. The model 25 and 45 are probabally the most popular guyed tower for amateur use. Rohn does have some self supporting towers to 56 feet, but you must be carefull on loading. I do not consider the models 25 and 45 selfsupporting above 30 feet. For the big HF beams I would go with a Rohn 45, but it will cost twice as much as the 25.

As for price, I think I paid about \$55 per ten foot section in 1987. I found prices between \$55 and \$110 per section. The local Ham stores in Ohio provided the lowest price. I was amazed at the range of price. Check mail order. Check ads in QST (like Texas Tower).

I had a commercial installer put the tower up for me. I paid him \$700 for job, but did the hole digging and concrete work myself. The base section is in a 2 x 2 foot square hole, 3-feet deep. The guy anchors are in 4-foot holes about half in concrete, 2-foot square.

Rohn has a technical manual that provides design information on all their products. This is a good reference in designing the installation. If you can find their phone number call them and see if you can get a copy. I don't have their address or phone number with me or I would post it.

by the way, I am using Phillystrand non-conductive guys. This is a nice product, but more expensive than the standard galvanized guy wire. If you use galvanized guy wire plan on replacing it every seven to ten years.

I know a few people that had tower up over ten years and the guy wires rusted and broke. Phillystrand told me they expect a 30-year life out of their product. I think I am spelling the name wrong. The tower suppliers in QST sell this stuff also. For guy anchors I went to the junk yard and obtained three 4-inch I-beams, ten foot long. I had a welding shop attach a plate with three holes for the guy turnbuckles. I guy my 90-foot tower at 30, 60, and 90 feet. Angle on the top guy wire is under 60 degrees.

Use a trust bearing at the top to take the load off of the rotor. Ground the tower and all coax lines where they leave the tower.

This tower has survived one lightning strike and 60 MPH wind gusts

--

Mike Suhar WB8GXB
mds@meaddata.com

Date: Mon, 1 Aug 94 16:49:29 CDT
From: ncar!uchinews!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!usenet@ames.arpa
Subject: S. California Repeaters
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

On Sun, 31 Jul 1994 15:27:07 GMT,
Brian Webb <brian.webb@arbbs.simivalley.ca.us> wrote:

>I'm trying to program my HT with the best line up of 2-meter repeaters
>that I can. What I'd like to know is which repeaters in the southern
>third of California (San Luis Obispo to San Diego and the coast to the
>eastern stateline) have the following characteristics:

>
>1. Wide coverage
>
>2. Are heavily used
>
>3. Are open
>

>Our problem in southern California is that we have over 200 2-meter
>repeaters but most of them have limited coverage or are hardly ever
>used.

Hi Brian,

As you can see, I'm not from California, but I have a recommendation. A few

weeks ago we were on vacation in the L.A. area, and had our radios along -- that's my son and I (me - N9XDC, he - N9XDD). While in the area we listened a lot to the 147.210 repeater run by a group called the Bomb Squad (open). My son eventually got enough courage (he's 12, and we've both only had our tickets about 5 weeks) to jump in on one of their roundtables. They were very encouraging and patient, and my son had a great experience. He also made his first maritime mobile contact on that repeater - one of the regulars is stationed on a USN destroyer tender. There seemed to be activity on it most of the time.

The repeater location is Sunset Point (I think, supposedly somewhere between LA and San Diego), and I think it had a PL. (I lent my repeater directory to a friend for his vacation, so I can't look it up to be sure). It seems to have great range, as we picked it up east of San Bernadino. At any rate, I think you'll enjoy this group...they certainly left a favorable impression of So. California 2m on me, despite what I've read here.... :-)

Good luck! Let me know how you do.

-Steve-
N9XDC

Steve Hilberg
hberg@uiuc.edu

* /==
* * x
*

"Some people are weatherwise but
most are otherwise."

Date: Mon, 1 Aug 1994 22:43:45 GMT
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!parker@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: S. California Repeaters
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The Catalina repeater is 147.090. And, it is a good one. I used it once from Santa Barbara, talking to a friend in San Clemente (in between LA and San Diego).

--
Andrew Parker
KD6TGM
parker@netcom.com

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 06:09:57 GMT

From: maestro!GWOODY@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Simulcasting repeaters on same freq
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Clifford Yamamoto (cyamamot@marconi.jpl.nasa.gov) wrote:

: I was wondering if anyone has any experience with repeater simulcast.

: What I'd like to know is if this is plausible for ham radio use for
: say two sites? Is there a simple way to get reused Micors/Mitreks/etc.
: to be phased locked together? It doesn't seem easy. The receiver
: voting portion seems easier than getting both sites to xmit in phase.

: Is there equipment from Motorola that already does this? How much
: would something like that be? Could I get a DDS board that replaces
: the elements in the Micors/Mitreks that can be fed a 10MHz reference
: signal from a GPS/WWVB receiver?

: Any suggestions or hints would be appreciated.
: Thanks & 73's
: - Cliff

Cliff,

I vaguely recall reading an article in Mobile Radio Technology about a radio shop that did a base station/repeater install in a tunnel and they got their Micors to lock phase by referring the TCXO's AFC to a master high-stability oscillator. Check the back issues.

-Gene WA2BCM GWOODY@maestro.com NRM23A@prodigy.com

Date: 01 Aug 1994 19:57:56 GMT
From: lll-winken.llnl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!cat.cis.Brown.EDU!noc.near.net!
news2.near.net!info-server.bbn.com!news!levin@ames.arpa
Subject: SWL QSLs and the bureaus
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I usually get at least one or two SWL QSL cards with each incoming batch. They have SWL id's where one might expect a call sign to go, and the numbers fall within the ITU assignments for the country of origin - for instance a card from France might have something like "F123ABC".

So, since I'd like to QSL these people too, I want to know:

(a) Will the the ARRL Outgoing Bureau handle them? and

(b) Will the intended recipient's country's incoming bureau handle them?

I sent the last one direct, but that could get expensive if I start getting a lot of these (yeah, that's so likely).

Thx / JBL

==

Nets: levin@bbn.com | "Earn more sessions by sleeving."

pots: (617)873-3463 |

KD1ON (@KB4N.NH.USA) |

-- Roxanne Kowalski

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 14:57:51 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!spool.mu.edu!umn.edu!maroon!egela003@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Technician No Code

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am currently preparing for the Technician no-code FCC amateur license. If anyone has passed this examination and moved on to a higher class, I would like to know whether it is really worth it to spend all that time learning the code. I am mainly interested in microwave data transfer right now, but I may like to get into DX someday. (???). I have successfully DXed with my CB & a homebrew antenna on the standard 4 watts, but don't care for the CB crowd much. I have listened to the 2 meter band on my scanner, but can't quite get a good feel for what it's all about. I have been fooling around with circuits and electronics for about eight years now, and really find an interest in making antennas, circuits, etc. Any opinions (especially about the value of a higher license) appreciated.

PS I am having a hard time finding out where to take my technician no code examination in the Minneapolis area. Anyone know who to contact?

RDE

Date: Mon, 1 Aug 94 16:46:00 +0100

From: elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!jussieu.fr!univ-lyon1.fr!

talao.unice.fr!ws41.cnusc.fr!ciril.fr!muller!julienas!EU.net!dkuug!dkuug!ic.dk!

dkb!graham.davies@ames.arpa

Subject: Weather fax/satellite pics

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm very interested in receiving weather fax and satellite/press pictures etc. using my PC, but don't know where to start!

If anybody can help in any of the following areas it would be much appreciated.

1. What type of radio/receiver do I need to buy? Models, price etc.
I believe the frequencies in question are between 0 - 20Mhz?
2. What kind of Modem do I need? I've heard that they're relatively cheap to make, but I'm no electronics wiz. Can I buy one?
3. Software - is there any shareware software available that I could try out, to view these faxes/pictures?
4. Is it all legal?
5. Is there a FAQ anywhere on the Internet that I could download on the subject?

Thanks in advance.

Graham.

---graham.davies@dkb.dk

Date: 2 Aug 94 10:54:47 EDT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!gatech!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!
gumby!wmichgw!x92verma@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: y

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hello all,

I just got my Tech No-Code ticket and a HT. I would like to get a mobile antenna, preferably trunk-lip mount, that I can use to xmit on 2-meters as well as receive wide-band for a scanner. Please respond with your comments via e-mail or this group.

Thanks,

Ham: N9XLS

```
-----\
\          ANIL VERMA
\ Electrical Engineer and Pilot-at-Large
\ e-mail: x92verma@gw.wmich.edu
\ Western Michigan University
/-----/
/          \___-=0`/|0`/_|
/          \ --- / | / )
/          \ /-== _/_|/_=-|
/          *          \ | |
/          (★)
```

"Fly or Die"

Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 13:56:27 GMT
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!slay@decwrl.dec.com
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Aug1.133035.26778@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>, <slayCtvMp5.7E2@netcom.com>, <CtvuG5.DIy@news.Hawaii.Edu>
Subject : Re: What to do with old OST's

: Sandy, my mother lives in a tiny town called Minden, Nevada. Their
: library has copies of QST donated by the local radio club. The pages
: are dog-eared showing lots of use. This is a small town yet those
: QST's are read widely.

Well, isn't that just precious

: While visiting the small beach town of Carpenteria last year I went
: to the public library and found QST. Again, this is a small town yet
: those issues showed signs of wear.

: > (Oh boy I'll bet ur gonna tell me about all the non-hams
: >you know who've read an old QST cover-to-cover and came to see the light.

Thanks for confirming it.

: Sheesh yourself. My elmer had stacks of QST's lying around his garage.
: As a young pup I practically memorized them cover-to-cover. Those mags
: along with his encouragement made me a ham.

Now this is more like it. Course, I'll bet you didn't just sit in
his garage either get to take a few home at night to peruse, eh?
As a "young pup", betcha also ran down to your local library to look thru
all the back issues as well, huh? I would've too but it was
more fun for me to go to the local ham who had them.

: Phooey

Pitooy. Ah yes... diversity of opinion ain't it grand?
Well, maybe the original poster of this thread can make up his mind
about what he wants to do with his magazines since their
his to do with as he chooses. He asked for advice from the masses
and we are just two of the more vocal ones.

Cheers/73

Sandy WA6BXH/7J1ABV <slay@netcom.com>

Date: Mon, 1 Aug 1994 20:02:20 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!
hpscit.sc.hp.com!cupnews0.cup.hp.com!jholly@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <774847822.51snx@n2ayj.overleaf.com>,
<6e.2219.332.0N666739@cencore.com>, <31e6o9\$heu@apple.com>com
Subject : Re: CT:Re: Did someone say . . . bolus ?Y2>Message-ID: <774847

Kok Chen (kchen@apple.com) wrote:
: forrest.gehrke@cencore.com (Forrest Gehrke) writes:

: >N2>In article <30ml9p\$isb@news.u.washington.edu> cummings@u.washington.edu writ
: >N2>>I remember when we told our Elmer we got our tickets, he told us we must've
: >N2>>made a mistake, as there was no such thing as a KA7 call. He thought that
: >N2>>was a DX prefix!
: >N2>>

: >And he was right! KA was the prefix for the Philippine Islands
: >before their independence.

: If memory serves, back in my SWL days in 9M2-land during the early- to
: mid-60s, I was hearing a lot of KAs from Japan.

: I think they might be licenses issued to folks posted to the U.S. military
: bases there.

Yes, that is correct. I got a card from KA2CC just before it shut down.
The military issued licenses were KA.

Jim, WA6SDM
jholly@cup.hp.com

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #868
